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Contact: NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Northern Inland Branch

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Office of Environment & Heritage

Backburning

Cultural

EXTREME

This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of the Rural Fires Act 1997.

	Locality Ma	p		
	0	25	50	100 Km
	1 1			1:1,250,000 N
BOURKE LGA	BREWARRINA LGA			Lightning Ridge
	●Brewarrina		WAL	GETT LGA Walget
Bourke		AND TO LAND		COONAMBLE LGA

	Map details	
Datum: D_GDA_1994 Zone_55	Geographic Coordinate System: GCS_GDA_1994	Topographic Map: Gerara 8
Local Government Area: Bourke		

Communications Information		Contact Information			
		Agency Position / Location		Phone	
Service	Channel	Location and Comments		Duty Officer (24 hour)	02 8275 1742
NPWS		Beulah – coverage in	National Parks & Wildlife Service	Bourke Area Office (bus. hours)	02 6830 0200
VHF	21	reserve vicinity only. No link back to Bourke		Ledknapper NR (Beulah Office)	02 6874 7452
NPWS VHF		Request through Team		District Manager Inspector Vaughan Elsworth	02 6836 1226 0438 831 356
Repeaters		Leader Fire	NSW Rural Fire Service	District Coordinator (Call first for wildfires) – Craig Warwick	0419 604 11
RFS	W001	Digital Voting or UHF Ch 37	Far West Team	Bourke Fire Control Centre / Duty Officer	02 6872 4023 including A/F
UHF - CB	37	Channel to be confirmed by IMT fires determined by in fires	Fire and Rescue NSW	, buty officer	000
Aviation -	1 134 (I) I trequency is allocated on an		Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
CTAF	.51.76	incident	SES	Call Centre Bourke Unit	132 500 02 6872 144
Mobile		Telstra coverage is generally unavailable for most of the	Police	Bourke	02 6870 0899
Phone	0447.405	reserve	Council	Bourke Shire Council Current Road Conditions ah	02 6830 800 0419 722 05
Satellite Phone	0147 165 830	Good signal strength	Neighbours	NI Share/08 Tourism & Community Relations/Stakeholder	Geodatabase

Operational Guidelines

Aerial Operations	 Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. This includes directing aerial bombing and aerial ignition operations The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. All aerial ignition operations require the consent of a senior NPWS officer or the Section 44 Appointee.
Backhurning	 All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin. Backburning in areas of Low – Moderate OFH will require the use of wind, or low humidity to maximise

Backburning in Spinifex must be carefully planned and timed to avoid fire runs. The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant Command & land management agency is notified promptly. The initial Incident Controller will liaise with the RFS to ensure that the agency in command is determined and an Incident Controller is appointed.

New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact. All personal involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location. All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed immediately at the cessation of

the incident. Plant may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS Officer. Plant must always be guided and supervised by an experienced officer, and accompanied by a support

vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack, this vehicle must be a fire fighting vehicle. Machinery should be excluded from Brigalow – Gidgee Woodlands is limited to fire trails and Equipment Containment lines running along valley areas should be constructed 20-50 metres from the gully line to Plant must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting

The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants will NOT be permitted within 50 metres of dams and The aerial use of gels and retardants should be approved by a senior NPWS officer. The use of retardants requires the approval of a senior NPWS officer. Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire Rehabilitation

Water Points Consider deployment of a bulk water carrier to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. Implement the emergency management plan during Severe + Fire Danger, or when fires are

threatening walking trails and public use facilities. Ensure the closure is advertised on the NPWS Management visitor website. The reserve is generally closed to the general public. The potential rate of spread in spinifex areas is very rapid, and the risk of entrapment very high. Backburning should be carefully considered during periods of running fire, particularly in front of the

Black text – general guidelines Blue text – reserve specific guidelines Red text – important warnings

Heritage Guidelines

IS 1 – As far as possible protect site from fire. Do not cut down trees. IS 2 – As far as practicable protect the site from fire. Avoid all ground disturbance and driving over sites. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. **IS 3 –** Avoid all ground disturbance. Avoid water bombing. Site may be burnt by fire without damage. Modified trees • As far as possible, protect the site from fire, and do not cut trees

• Use of foams & retardant is acceptable. Heritage Habitation sites Exclude control line construction from sites. Consider a buffer zone of about 50 metres from the sites. AIIMS databases must be checked as part of planning for fire operations. Old Gerara Springs is a site of significance. No heavy plant inside fenced area.

Buildings and facilities associated with past agricultural enterprises – Protect timber elements as the situation permits. Manage heavy plant to protect assets The protective actions for threatened fauna have been incorporated into the Operational Guidelines Machinery should be excluded from Brigalow and Coolibah woodlands. Fauna & Flora Manage vegetation for diversity of time since fire.

Light blading may be employed during control line construction. • Bar drains or roll-overs must be constructed as soon as possible.

Suppression Strategies

 Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity LOW - HIGH

 Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units. Fire danger rating

• Close parallel attack, moving around the head only when the fire stops running Distance between the flank and machinery and fire units should be kept to a minimum EXTREME If fire is running, it will slow considerably when it reaches Brigalow, Belah or Bimble box country.

Parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units only on dead edges, or in

Varning: Volatile fire runs should be anticipated with winds from any direction. Entrapment risk is very

 Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity. • Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units only on dead edges, or in vegetation with LOW OFH. • Fallback to existing trails and roads, recently burnt areas or vegetation with LOW OFH. • Do not attempt backburning in the predicted path of running fire in this vegetation. Fire danger rating

• Backburning must be carefully timed and planned to avoid adding to fire runs.

high. The distance between the flank and fire fighters should be kept to a minimum.

Fire Season Information

The critical wildfire season occurs during November to February. This period may extend into the first half of March. Particular care is required during periods of negative Southern Oscillation Indices. The end of the critical fire season is often marked by wet storm activity.

Prescribed burning should be undertaken before autumn rain occurs to maximise effectiveness. Burning **Prescribed** may also be considered in late winter and early spring dependant on seasonal factors. Prescribed burning undertaken near the commencement of the statutory bushfire season should be fully contained. Burning

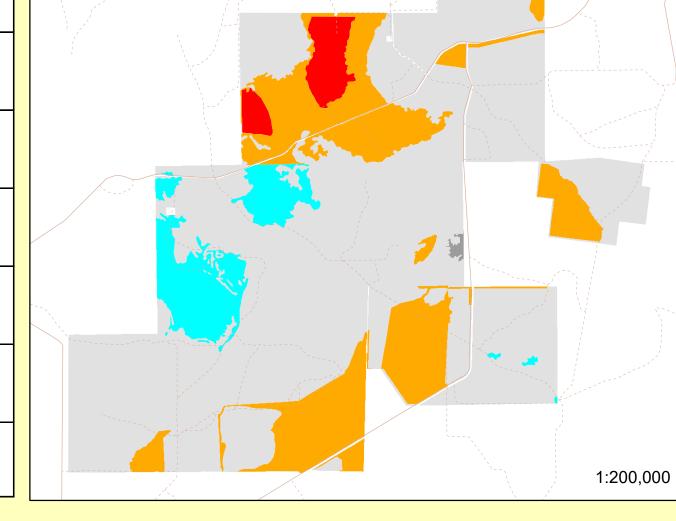
fire intensity.

Vegetation

Vegetation Management Guidelines	Fire Behaviour	
Vegetation dominated by lignum and chenopod shrubs.	Potential rate of spread is low due to Low-Mod OFH in most	
Fires should be avoided	years.	
unless required for strategic	Localised areas of High OFH	
protection of the reserve.	may produce areas of higher	South State of the
Frequent fire may kill Lignum and Canegrass shrublands.	fire intensity.	
Fire may promote exotic		The state of the s
species growth.		The state of the s
The Ledknapper Spinifex	Localised areas of Moderate-	
Community dominates this vegetation class. Avoid fire	High OFH. • Spinifex greater than 15 years	
intervals less than 10 years in		
normal seasons and 15 years	or above. Fire will be intense	The state of the s
in dry seasons. Maintain a range of age classes from 0 to	and possibly volatile. Wind can create erratic fire	
40 years. Fire may kill Callitris.		
Avoid fire intervals of less than		
10 years in Poplar Box and	Low-Mod due to low OFH.	and of the second of the secon
Mulga. Maintain a range of age classes to 40 years.		The state of the s
 Avoid fire intervals of less than 		
20 years in Belah and Black		The second secon
Box Coolibah. Intense fire may kill aging stands.		
Fire should be avoided in		
Gidgee and Brigalow.		The state of the s
Avoid fire intervals of less than	· ·	
10 years.	due to Low-Mod OFH in most	
Maintain a range of age classes to 40 years	years. • Localised areas of High OFH	
olasses to 40 years	may produce areas of higher	1:200,000
	I	/ 1.200,000

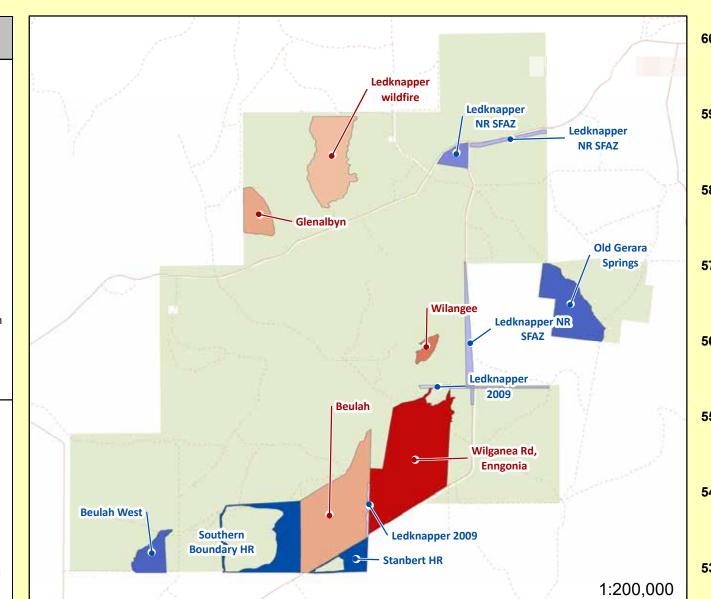
Vegetation Fire Thresholds

		_
egetation hreshold	Treatment	/
oo Frequently urnt	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. Protect from fire as far as possible.	
ulnerable to requent Fire	The area will be Too Frequently Burnt if it burns this year. Protect from fire as far as possible.	
/ithin hreshold	Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.	
ong Unburnt	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.	
nknown	Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.	
o Regime ssigned	Areas which do not have recommended fire intervals assigned to them eg. cleared land, rock.	
B. Fire threshold	s are defined for vegetation communities to conserve	



Fire History

Туре	Fire Details	
	2018-19: Southern Boundary - A moderate intensity hazard reduction burn has reduced Spinifex fuels to low OFH	(1)
	2018-19: Stanbert - A moderate intensity hazard reduction burn has reduced Spinifex fuels to low OFH	
cribed Burn	2014-15: Old Gerara Springs – intense spinifex HR unlikely to carry fire for more than10 years.	
	2014-15: Beulah West – moderate intensity spinifex fire in the centre of the burn area, very patch burn elsewhere.	
	2012-13: Gerara Shire Road - moderate intensity spinifex burn along road edge. Will carry fire in 5 years.	
	2010-10: Ledknapper NR SFAZ – intense spinifex fire in thin strip. Will carry fire in 5 years.	
	2009-10: Ledknapper 2009 – moderated intensity spinifex road edge fire. Will carry fire in 5 years.	
	2018-19: Wilganea Rd - intense wildfire in spinifex, removed all ground fuel in burnt area. Will not carry fire for minimum 10 years.	1 3
fire	2014-15: Beulah Wildfire in spinifex. Intense fire that removed all vegetation. Will not carry fire for 10 years.	
	2012-13: Glenalbyn Wildfire on floodplain. No evidence currently exists of the fire in an ephemeral fuel area.	
	2011-12: Ledknapper Wildfire on floodplain. No evidence currently exists of the fire in an ephemeral fuel area.	



Risk Management Information

nt	Treatment		
n	The objective of APZ s is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at Moderate or below.	Gerara Precinct	
es	The objective of SFAZ s is to reduce fire intensity in locations to assist containment of wildfires, by maintaining the Overall Fuel Hazard less than HIGH.		
	The objective of LMZ s is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.	Beulah Precinct	

1:200,000

